HEALTH CARE UNIT CHIEF SPECIAL ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL CIVIL DIVISION

RHODE ISLAND OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL PAYGRADE 8737 (\$88,937 - \$100,788)

July 30, 2021 – September 17, 2021

The Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General is seeking an experienced attorney to assume the new position of Health Care Unit Chief within the Public Protection Bureau of the Civil Division that includes the responsibility to set the course for an expanded health care role for the Office of the Attorney General. This position is currently open.

About the Office: The Attorney General is the state's top lawyer and law enforcement official, protecting and serving the people and interests of Rhode Island through a broad range of duties. Every day, the Office's attorneys fight to ensure the public safety of the state's communities, improve the economic security of its citizens, safeguard the state's spectacular natural resources, and restore the public's trust in government. Assistant and Special Assistant Attorneys General represent the people of Rhode Island in civil and criminal matters before trial courts, appellate courts, and the supreme courts of Rhode Island and the United States. The Office is unique among attorneys general offices across the country. Out of fifty states, only two other offices share the same broad criminal mission. The Office's attorneys prosecute complex and violent crimes but also functionally serve as one of the nation's largest district attorney's offices, prosecuting all felonies throughout the state.

Civil Division: The Civil Division leads affirmative and defensive litigation on behalf of the state, counsels the Attorney General and other government officials, and performs a range of regulatory duties. From identifying and pursuing landmark civil actions against businesses and individuals that have harmed Rhode Islanders to defending state laws, state agencies, state general officers, legislators, and employees, the Division and its attorneys are at the forefront of matters being litigated before trial courts, appellate courts, and the supreme courts of Rhode Island and the United States.

Public Protection Bureau: The Public Protection Bureau has been recently created within the Civil Division of the Attorney General's office and is comprised of four units — Healthcare, Consumer and Economic Justice, Environmental and Energy, and Civil & Community Rights. Each of these units affirmatively develops legal work and initiatives by using the legal authority of the Office of Attorney General to advance and protect dignity, quality of life and equity for all Rhode Islanders. The Public Protection Bureau and each of its units also engage with community members and advocates to identify needed change and with thought partners to understand drivers of poverty and inequities within existing systems. Litigation and other initiatives are chosen based on understanding where change is needed and the relationship of evident needs to larger drivers of inequity and are prioritized by evaluating the potential for impact.

Health Care Unit: The mission of the Health Care Unit is to contribute to improving individual and community health, understanding that the health of Rhode Islanders requires access to the healthcare market as well as safe and healthy communities, homes, workplaces and schools, and

working to make health care more accessible, affordable and of consistently high quality for Rhode Islanders by removing obstacles to care. The Unit will engage with community members and advocates to identify needed change and with health policy thought-partners to understand drivers within health care systems. Litigation and other initiatives will be chosen based on understanding where change is needed and the relationship of evident needs to larger drivers of inequity, and will be prioritized by evaluating the potential for impact. The Unit combines the authority vested in the Attorney General with powers under the Health Care Advocate and Insurance Advocate statutes.

Duties and Opportunities: The Health Care Unit Chief is a new position, part of the recently created Public Protection Bureau and the expansion of the health care work in the Office of Attorney General. The Office is seeking an attorney to work with leadership and partners in the Civil Division to set the course for this new work. The Unit Chief is expected to fulfill the following roles:

- Develop initiatives (litigation, investigations, etc.) that advance the mission of the Unit and that draw on insight from communities and policy thought-partners through collaboration with leadership in the RIAG and other members of the Public Protection Bureau.
- Lead litigation and supervise the work of attorneys in the Civil Division who are collaborating on Health Care Unit work.
- Engage with advocates and members of communities in Rhode Island to understand obstacles to health and health care.
- Identify policy thought-partners and resources to connect work being considered by the Health Care Unit with broader, policy-based, research into drivers of inequity in health care.
- Maintain communication with community members to identify need, understand impact and report about work, working with the Public Information Officer and the Director of Community Engagement.
- Maintain standards of quality legal work.
- Engage Civil Division attorneys outside the Health Care Unit.
- Along with leadership in the RIAG, work with agency partners throughout State government.

In this role, the Special Assistant Attorney General will be responsible for assisting in identifying and investigating potential cases, prioritizing Health Care Unit affirmative work, case development, pre-trial litigation, negotiation, written and oral argument, trial work, and appeals.

Opportunities for Special Assistant Attorneys General in the Civil Division also include attending National Association of Attorney General trainings and conferences throughout the country, serving on state, local, federal, and/or non-profit boards, commissions, working groups, and/or task forces as a designee of the Attorney General, providing substantive expertise to legislative or policy initiatives, supervising student interns as part of the Office's legal internship program.

Eligibility: The successful applicant must have a law degree from an accredited law school and be an active member in good standing of the bar of any jurisdiction. If not a member of the Rhode

Island Bar, the candidate must be eligible for admission to the Rhode Island bar and prepared to sit for the bar exam.

Qualifications: Eight to ten years of litigation experience is preferred. Strong candidates will have a demonstrated commitment to public interest law and preferably experience in health care. The position of Health Care Unit Chief will require leadership skills, an interest in creative legal thinking and a demonstrated ability to both envision and build on an organizational level. Candidates must have strong written/oral advocacy and negotiating skills and possess the capacity to function in a sometimes-high stress, demanding environment. Applicant must work well independently and as part of a team, including with other attorneys and support staff. Ability to work with other state government employees and communicate with members of the public is a must. Litigation experience in both state and federal court is preferred. The applicant should bring innovative thinking to the ways in which the Office of the Attorney General can consistently and increasingly meet the needs of Rhode Island residents.

The Attorney General's Office is stronger, more credible, and more capable when its attorneys bring diverse backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives to their work. The Office encourages all qualified applicants from all ethnic and racial backgrounds, veterans, LGBTQ individuals, and persons with disabilities to apply.

Application Process: Applicants should submit (1) a cover letter summarizing why you are interested and describing the skills and abilities you possess that will enable you to succeed in this position, (2) resume, (3) list of three references, and (4) a writing sample to:

Aida Crosson
Director of Administration
Office of the Attorney General
150 South Main Street
Providence, RI 02903
ACrosson@riag.ri.gov

Other Information: The selected applicant will be subject to a background investigation including reference checks.

Equal Opportunity Employer: All qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, national origin, disability, or covered veteran status.